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Monday, 08 Nov 2010

## News

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## SECUCC eNewsletter

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## "A Spirit of Generosity"

Dear Friends,

How do we model a spirit of generosity in a season in which we feel the scarcity around us? Amidst the news of unemployment, foreclosures, and economic decline it is sometime difficult to "count our blessings, name them one by one." And yet, by so many measures most of us continue to be blessed.

One sign of our spirit of abundance is that I have been touched by the outpouring of support from so many of you to the *Transforming Churches Transforming Lives* Campaign, and I remain confident that we will achieve our goals as we work with our capable follow-up director, Debbie Spearman. We are beginning to visit the congregations who have made commitments to the Campaign to present to them a certificate of recognition and thanks.

## UCC News

### UCC Newsroom

Headlines from the United Church of Christ

[Unified Governance receives approval of UCC boards, Executive Council](#)

Following a year of deliberation, including discernment and dialog from congregations, Conferences and interest groups, a "Proposal for Unified Governance of the National Setting of the United Church of Christ" was delivered by the Unified Governance (UGov) Working Group and has received approval to proceed from the UCC's Executive Council and the boards of the four Covenanted Ministries.

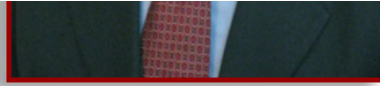
## Southeast Conference FAQ's

[Who is the SEC?](#)
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I know in this season of stewardship campaigns many churches are concerned about their 2011 budgets, and I would encourage you to be attentive to the wonderful resources that are available to you through the United Church of Christ, and in particular, the excellent book *Inspiring Generosity*. That resource is available to you through the conference office or through the United Church of Christ.

You may be receiving a contact from *Verona*, the community which





from Vanco, the company which can help your congregation set up a system for electronic giving. Used by UCC churches across the country, Vanco noted that only

three of our 51 churches are using their services. We have found that churches that do use electronic giving typically see their giving increase by 10%, and their income is not affected by seasonal fluctuations to the same degree as when a church relies on traditional offering plate giving.

I would encourage you to pay attention to the offering of workshops on local church capital campaigns which will be held at the association meetings this fall, on November 6<sup>th</sup> in Birmingham for the Alabama-Tennessee Association and November 13<sup>th</sup> for the Georgia-South Carolina Association. These will be invaluable opportunities for you to understand what these campaigns entail and how to conduct one with excellence.

You are welcomed to contact the conference office for support and consultation concerning stewardship. We have helped churches design and implement campaign in the past and continue to make that support available to those who ask.

Yes, this is a challenging season for giving, and yet, there are many ways to continue to inspire and equip congregations to living in a spirit of abundance even in the midst of difficult times.

Peace,

Tim Downs

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#### SECUCC CONTACTS

- ▶ [Conference Minister](#)
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#### SECUCC RESOURCES

- ▶ [Annual Meeting](#)
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#### FAVORITE LINKS

- ▶ [Bridge 4 Faith](#)
- ▶ [The Center for Progressive Renewal](#)
- ▶ [United Church of Christ](#)
- ▶ [Mission Insite](#)
- ▶ [Resource Center](#)

#### EVENTS CALENDAR

« < November 2010 > »						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

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